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hematologic disease including a BCR/abl nucleic acid, and other nucleic acids related to a genetic disease such as those listed in the GENETESTS® database maintained by Hanson et al. That is, many nucleic acid sequences associated with a disease, disorder or condition are described at the world wide web site of the GeneTests organization, and the web site provides an extensive list of genetic diseases wherein a mutation has been identified that is associated with the disease at the world wide web site of the GeneClinics organization, while the number of genetic diseases identified which are correlated to a known mutation(s) is expanding every day. Further, the target nucleic acid encompasses both wild type and mutation nucleic acid sequences of the CFTR gene including those set forth at the publicly available web site of the Department of Genetics, The Hospital for Sick Children, Ontario, Canada, which site is maintained by Lap-Chee Tsui et al. --

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**In the Claims:**

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Please cancel claims 2, 11, and 25, without prejudice to the inclusion of the subject matter contained therein in any later filed divisional application(s).

Please amend claims 1, and 24, as set forth below. A "marked-up" copy of the claims indicating the changes is attached hereto.

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1. (Amended) A stable isolated nucleic acid reference standard, said nucleic acid reference standard comprising an isolated target nucleic acid comprising a known sequence wherein said isolated target nucleic acid is bound with a microparticulate binding agent, and wherein when said isolated target nucleic acid is so bound said isolated target nucleic acid is not substantially detected in a nucleic acid assay, wherein said binding agent is at least one of a binding agent selected from the group consisting of a liposome, a polyamine, a siliceous compound, a zeolite, a polystyrene, chitin, and chitosan.

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24. (Amended) A kit for producing a nucleic acid reference standard, said kit comprising an isolated target nucleic acid comprising a known sequence and a binding agent, said kit further comprising an applicator, and an instructional material for the use thereof,